Plant as suggested by the Neutral Expert appointed by the World Bank on Pakistan's request, for Expert Determination on the points of difference raised by Pakistan.

(b) During a Tour of Inspection of Permanent Indus Commission to the Baglihar Hydroelectric Project held on 30th July 2008 on Pakistan's request, the changes suggested by the Neutral Expert and implemented by JKSPDC, were verified by Pakistan.

(c) The Neutral Expert had suggested that the power intake level of Baglihar Hydroelectric Plant should be raised by 3.0 m and the top level of dam should be reduced by 1.5 m. Under the provision of Treaty, the decision of the Neutral Expert on the matter is final and binding upon the parties, and the suggested changes have been carried out.

Pending water project between India and Nepal

2478. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of water projects lying pending between India and Nepal as on date;

(b) the time by which these projects are likely to be executed;

(c) whether Government had any dialogue with the Nepal Government on this issue; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project on the river Sharda, Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage cum Diversion Scheme on the river Kosi and West Rapti (Naumure) Multipurpose project on the river Rapti are under discussion between India and Nepal; for which India-Nepal Joint Committee on Water Resources (JCWR) headed by Secretaries (Water Resources) of India and Nepal already exists. JCWR during its 3rd meeting held from 29th September, 2008 to 1st October, 2008 recommended setting up of a three-tier bilateral mechanism consisting of Joint Ministerial Level Committee on Water Resources (JMCWR) headed by Ministers of Water Resources of India and Nepal, existing JCWR headed by Secretaries (WR) of India and Nepal and Joint Standing Technical Committee (JSTC) headed by the Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) from Indian side, to address bilateral cooperation in water resources.

JCWR also decided to set up Pancheshwar Development Authority (PDA) for the development, execution and operation of the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project.

JCWR further decided to extend the tenure of Joint Project Office (established on 17th August, 2004) for field investigation and preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Saptakosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sunkosi Storage cum Diversion Scheme, upto December, 2009.

Indian side of JCWR agreed to undertake a pre-feasibility study of West Rapti Multipurpose (Naumure) Project after receipt of requisite data from the Government of Nepal.